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Notes and Descriptions of North American Plants.—I.

BY JOHN K. SMALL.

SAXIFRAGA NAPENSIS.

Perennial by very short rootstocks, scapose, almost glabrous or sparingly glandular-pilose above. Leaves basal; blades thinish (drying very thin), more or less obliquely oval or ovate, 2–7 cm. long, rounded at apex, undulate, abruptly or gradually narrowed at base, ciliate, sometimes slightly pilose on both surfaces: petioles slightly shorter than the blades or longer, broadly winged: scapes erect, slender, 1.5–3 dm. tall, loosely-paniculate-corymbose: calyx glabrous or glabrate; tube broadly turbinate, nearly 1 mm. high; segments oblong or ovate-oblong, slightly longer than the tube, obtuse or acutish, gland-tipped: corolla white, 5 mm. broad; petals broadly oval or suborbicular, 2 mm. long, rounded or notched at apex, sessile or nearly so, 5–7-nerved: ovaries united to calyx-tube, surrounded by a conspicuous lobed disk: follicles short and stout, 4 mm. high, united to each other to about the edge of disk: seeds dark red, 0.3 mm. long.

On hillsides, Napa Valley, California.

Collected by J. M. Bigelow (Whipple's Expedition) and George Thurber, no. 496.

A species of lax habit, resembling *Saxifraga claytoniaefolia* more closely than any other member of the subgenus *Micranthes*. It differs from *S. claytoniaefolia* by its broadly oval or suborbicular 5–7-nerved petals.

SAXIFRAGA VAN-BRUNTIAE.

Perennial, bright green, minutely glandular-pilose or glabrate below. Stems tufted, 2–7 cm. long, simple, or sometimes corymbosely branched above, leafy to the top: leaves alternate; blades linear, 4–8 mm. long, leathery, blunt, with a thick apex, sessile, turning black at the base of the plants: calyx glabrate in age; tube broadly turbinate; segments oblong or ovate-oblong, obtuse, longer than the tube, spreading: petals yellow, oblong, about 4 mm. long, obtuse, firm, more or less crisped, much longer than the calyx-segments: stamens 10, filaments filiform.

The original specimens of this hitherto undescribed *Saxifraga* were collected by Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Van Brunt during the

past season on the summit of Sulphur Mountain near Banff, British Columbia. The species is related to *Saxifraga serpyllifolia* and *S. chrysantha*; the habit suggests those species but the stems are copiously leafy to the top and the leaves are narrower. The petals are smaller, of a much less brilliant yellow and oblong or ovate-oblong instead of oval-orbicular or obovate as they are in the two related species.

GALPINSIA TOUMEYI.

Perennial from a shrubby base, slender, bright green, puberulent. Stems branching near the base; branches erect or ascending, wire-like, 1-3 dm. long, usually simple above, leafy, pale when young: leaves numerous, sometimes clustered in axils; blades linear-spatulate to linear, 1-2 cm. long, acute, entire, with midrib prominent beneath, lower ones short-petioled, upper sessile: spikes few-flowered, leafy-bracted: calices very minutely pubescent; tube slender, 3-5 cm. long; segments about 1-5 cm. long, their free tips 5-6 mm. long: corolla yellow; petals orbicular-obovate, 1.5 cm. long, undulate: anthers linear, as long as the filaments: capsules linear-prismatic, 2 cm. long.

Arizona: Chincagua Mountains, July 25, 1894, J. W. Toumey, no. 197. Fort Huachuca, August, 1892, T. E. Wilcox.

The species just described is related to *Galpinsia Hartwegii*, but is of a much more slender build. There are minor characters in the foliage and habit, but one of the more crucial points of difference lies in the calyx, where we find the free tips of the segments 5-6 mm. in length.

LIMONIUM LIMBATUM.

Perennial, bluish green or glaucescent. Leaves basal; blades leathery, spatulate or oblong-spatulate, 0.5-1.5 dm. long, obtuse or notched at the apex, prominently nerved beneath in drying; petioles shorter than the blades or rarely longer, margined: scapes erect, solitary or several together, corymbosely branched; branches zigzag, ascending; spikes in dense terminal corymbs: bracts suborbicular or sometimes orbicular-oval, obtuse, often eroded at the apex, hyaline-margined: calyx trumpet-shaped with a flaring limb, nearly 4 mm. long; tube hirsute; segments broadly deltoid, apiculate: corollas bright blue.

In alkaline soil, Texas and New Mexico.

As far as I can learn there has been no attempt heretofore to

separate the Texan plant referred to *Limonium Californicum* either varietally or specifically. An examination of considerable material both from the Texas and the Californian districts discloses the fact that there have been two perfectly distinct species confused under the old *Limonium Californicum*. As in the case of all the species of the genus the two under consideration resemble each other in habit. The diagnostic characters are contrasted below :

Limonium Californicum. Calyx narrowly funnellform ; tube glabrous ; segments erect or nearly so, rounded and mucronulate.

Limonium limbatum. Calyx trumpet-shaped ; tube hirsute ; segments more or less spreading, broadly deltoid.

The following specimens belong here : Wright, no. 1435 ; Woodhouse, Zuni Mts., N. M., Aug., 1851 ; Wooton, no. 172.

ANDROSACE DIFFUSA.

Annual, acaulescent, more or less pubescent. Leaves basal ; blades oblanceolate to spatulate or nearly linear, 1-4 cm. long, obtuse or acute, sharply serrate above the middle or sparingly toothed near apex only, sessile or with short winged petioles : scapes erect and spreading, often diffusely branched at base, 5-10 cm. long or shorter : bracts lanceolate : pedicels filiform, very variable in length, often 1-8 cm. long in the same cluster : calyx campanulate to turbinate-campanulate, 3-3.5 mm. high ; segments triangular, acute, ciliate, about $\frac{1}{2}$ as long as the 5-ridged tube ; corolla white or pink, included, sometimes equalling the tips of the calyx-segments, 3-3.5 mm. broad ; segments oblong, obtuse or retuse at apex, about as long as the tube : filaments shorter than the anthers : capsules subglobose, about 3 mm. in diameter.

In rocky soil, western Arctic America to the Dakotas, New Mexico and Arizona. Spring and summer.

For some inexplicable reason the species here described as new has always been associated with *Androsace septentrionalis* with which it has not even a habitual resemblance. *Androsace septentrionalis* is a plant with strict, conspicuously elongated scapes which are surmounted by umbel-like clusters of pedicels of nearly equal length, whereas *Androsace diffusa*, has comparatively short, more or less diffusely spreading scapes, while the pedicels of the clusters are exceedingly variable in length. A more tangible

character exists in the corolla. In *Androsace septentrionalis* this organ conspicuously surpasses its calyx while in the newly described species it is shorter than its calyx or barely equals it.

ANDROSACE SUBUMBELLATA (A. Nelson).

Androsace septentrionalis subumbellata A. Nelson, Bull. Wyom. Exp. St. 28: 149. 1896.

Annual, diminutive, sparingly pubescent. Leaves basal; blades thick, oblong, 2–8 mm. long, obtuse, entire, sessile: scapes 1–5 mm. long, or wanting: bracts ovate-lanceolate or lanceolate, pedicels solitary or several together, 5–10 mm. long: calyx nearly glabrous, turbinate-campanulate, 2.5 mm. high; segments triangular, acute, slightly shorter than the 5-ridged tube: corolla white or pink, 2.5–3 mm. broad, surpassing the calyx; segments oblong, obtuse, or retuse at the apex, shorter than the tube; filaments much shorter than the anthers: capsule globose-pyriform, about 2 mm. thick.

On hillsides, near summit of Union Peak, Wyoming. Summer.

In order to treat this genus consistently, we should recognize the above as a species. On the one hand *Androsace subumbellata* is related to *Androsace diffusa*: this species it resembles in habit and foliage, but it is more diminutive in all its parts. On the other hand it is related to *Androsace septentrionalis* in having the corolla exserted beyond the calyx.

PRIMULA SERRA.

Perennial, glabrous or nearly so, deep green. Leaves basal, 5–10 cm. long; blades narrowly oblong or spatulate, much longer than the broadly winged petioles, rather regularly dentate, acute or apiculate: scapes erect, 1–2 dm. tall, solitary or several together: bracts scarious, ovate-lanceolate, acuminate, often minutely pubescent: pedicels 1–3 cm. long, glabrous in age: calices 6–7 mm. long; tube campanulate; segments lanceolate, granular-ciliate, acuminate, as long as the tube or shorter: corollas lilac-purple; tube as long as the calices or somewhat longer; segments suborbicular or obovate-orbicular, notched at apex, 7–8 mm. long, destitute of apiculations.

Primula serra resembles *Primula Rusbyi* in habit, but both the foliage and the inflorescence furnish characters for distinguishing the two species. In the case of the species just described we find

more coarsely toothed leaf-blades and shorter petioles ; but more prominent characters exist in the inflorescence : The calices are twice as large as those of *Primula Rusbyi*, the corolla-tubes are comparatively stout and they never twice exceed the length of the calices as do the very slender tubes of *Primula Rusbyi*. In addition, the lobes of the corolla-segments are destitute of the minute but characteristic apiculations found in the related species.

The original specimens were collected by Mr. Pringle on damp ledges, Santa Rita Mountains, Arizona, at an altitude of 8000 feet, on July 25, 1884.

PRIMULA TENUIS.

Perennial, glabrous, bright green. Leaves basal, 0.5-1.5 cm. long ; blades oblong, oval or suborbicular, undulate or toothed, obtuse or acutish, much shorter than the slender petioles : scapes erect, wire-like, 5-10 cm. tall, solitary : bracts linear-subulate, 1-5 mm. long : calices 3-5 mm. high, tubes turbinate, segments narrowly lanceolate to narrowly linear, longer than the tube, acute : corollas pink, 4-5 mm. broad ; tubes surpassing the calices, 4 mm long, notched at the apex.

In moist places, Pastolic, Alaska.

A delicate species related to *Primula borealis*, but much more slender ; easily distinguished by its flimsy leaves, shorter pedicels turbinate calyx-tubes and narrow calyx-segments. The corolla tube is further exserted than in *Primula borealis* and the more delicate lobes less deeply notched.

The original specimens were collected by W. H. Dall, on June 25, 1871, or 1872.